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Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

January
MockDrill
PDF No. 1
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 3rd February 2022

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

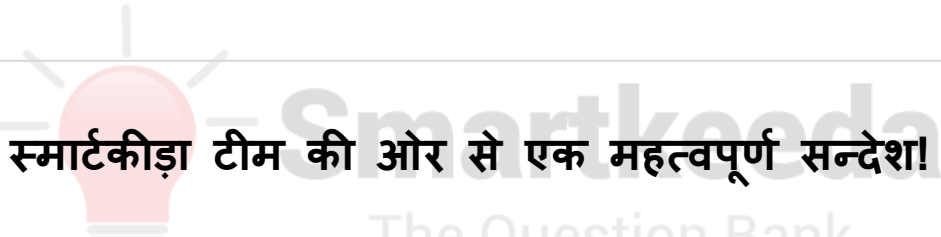
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of January 2022 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF जनवरी 2022 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

1. In January 2022, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched a 100-day reading campaign 'Padhe Bharat' for children studying in Balvatika to Grade 8 in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The reading campaign is being organized for 100 days starting from January 1, 2022. February 21 which is celebrated as International Mother Tongue Day, has also been integrated with this campaign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan – launched 100-day reading campaign 'Padhe Bharat'
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

2. Government-promoted CSC SPV, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, will undertake the 1st ever cultural survey of India's villages through a mobile application. CSC will develop the mobile application and train the village level entrepreneurs (VLEs) in conducting the survey. The survey, titled "Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar", will document the cultural identity at the village level by involving citizens to share what makes their village, block or district unique. The entire exercise is expected to be completed by mid-2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSC + Ministry of Culture = will undertake 1st ever cultural survey of India's villages - "Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar"
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt
- CSC e-Governance Services – functions under the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)

3. In January 2022, Union Education Minister & Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched "NEAT 3.0" for the students. National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) is an initiative to provide the use of best-developed technological solutions in the Education sector to enhance the employability of the youth on a single platform. AICTE, MoE is acting as the facilitator in the process while ensuring that the solutions are freely available to a large number of socially and economically backward students. The Minister also launched AICTE prescribed technical books in regional languages. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan – launched "NEAT 3.0" to provide technological solutions in the Education Sector
- Dharmendra Pradhan – launched AICTE prescribed technical books in regional languages
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe (AICTE functions under Ministry of Education)

4. On 3rd January 2022, on the 5th POSOCO Day, Union Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy Shri R.K. Singh dedicated "Automatic Generation Control (AGC)" to the nation to facilitate achieving the government's target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel-based generation capacity by 2030. The AGC is operated by Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO) through National Load Despatch Centre. He also released a report titled "Assessment of Inertia in Indian Power System" which was prepared by POSOCO in collaboration with IIT Bombay. India's target to achieve the renewable energy capacity of 175 GW is 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- R.K. Singh – dedicated “Automatic Generation Control (AGC)” to the nation
- R.K. Singh – released a report titled “Assessment of Inertia in Indian Power System”
- India targets to achieve non-fossil fuel-based generation capacity of 500 GW – by 2030
- India’s target to achieve the Renewable Energy capacity of 175 GW – 2022
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal
- HQs of POSOCO – New Delhi | CMD – K. V. S. Baba

5. In January 2022, Bharti Airtel announced the formation of a joint venture with Hughes Communications India Pvt Ltd (HCIPL), an innovator in satellite and networks to offer satellite broadband services in India. Hughes will hold a 67% stake in the joint venture, while Airtel will hold a 33% stake. It will be the largest satellite service operator in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel + HCIPL = to form a Joint Venture (JV) to become India’s largest satellite service operator
- Stake in Joint Venture – Bharti Airtel (33%) & Hughes Communications India Pvt Ltd (67%)
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

6. In January 2022, Ganjam district of Odisha was declared as state’s 1st child marriage free district. The district administration was able to stop as many as 450 child marriages in 2020 & 2021. Ganjam had started “Nirbhaya Kadhi” (Fearless bud) campaign, tried to prevent adolescent girls from dropping out of school, & counselling them. As many as one lakh teenagers have undergone counselling in the past two years. ₹5,000 reward was announced for those informing about any child marriage. Now, this has been increased to ₹50,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ganjam district – Odisha’s 1st child marriage free district
- Ganjam – started “Nirbhaya Kadhi (Fearless bud)” campaign
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal)

7. In January 2022, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) selected Tata Consultancy Services for the 2nd phase of ‘Passport Seva Program’ which was launched in 2008. In this phase, TCS will refresh existing facilities & systems, and develop innovative new solutions to enable the issuance of e-passports and further enhance the citizen experience using technologies such as biometrics, artificial intelligence, advance data analytics, chatbots, auto-response, natural language processing, and the cloud. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Consultancy Services – selected by MEA for the 2nd phase of ‘Passport Seva Program’
- Passport Seva Program – launched in 2008
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi



8. In January 2022, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's 1st unique "Rock Museum" in Hyderabad. The Open Rock Museum, set up with the aim to educate and enlighten the masses about several lesser known facts, displays around 35 different types of rocks from different parts of India with ages ranging from 3.3 Billion years to around 55 Million years of the Earth's history. He also released Earthquake Risk Maps of Lucknow and Dehradun Cities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Jitendra Singh – inaugurated India's first unique "Rock Museum" in Hyderabad
- Dr Jitendra Singh – released 'Earthquake Risk Maps' of Lucknow & Dehradun Cities
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K
- MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy and Space: Dr. Jitendra Singh
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

9. In January 2022, Fino Payments Bank received approval from Reserve Bank of India for starting international remittance business under the money transfer service scheme (MTSS). The Bank will undertake inward cross-border money transfer activities. People in India will now be able to directly withdraw money remitted by their family members abroad at the nearest Fino Bank neighbourhood merchant point. According to a recent World Bank release, India is expected to receive \$89.6 billion as remittances in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fino Payments Bank – received approval from RBI for starting international remittance business under the MTSS
- HQs of FPBL – Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rishi Gupta

10. In January 2022, Superapp CryptoWire launched India's first cryptocurrency index, IC15, which will measure the performance of the 15 most widely traded cryptocurrencies listed on leading crypto exchanges by market capitalization which include Bitcoin, Ethereum, Binance coin, Solana, Cardano, Ripple, Terra, Dogecoin and Shiba Inu, Avalanche, Polkadot, Uniswap, Litecoin, Chainlink, Bitcoin Cash. The index will be reviewed quarterly. IC15's base value as on 1 April 2018 was 10,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CryptoWire – launched India's first cryptocurrency index – IC15
- HQs of CryptoWire – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Jigish Sonagara

11. In January 2022, NPCI Bharat BillPay launched a Unified Presentment Management System (UPMS), which enables users to set up standing instructions on their recurring bill payments across all channels and modes of digital payments. Under the system, bills can be automatically fetched from the billers and presented to customers to take action in terms of auto-debit and bill payment management. UPMS will be available to the customers through the centralized infrastructure and application support provided by Bharat BillPay Central Unit (BBPCU). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI Bharat BillPay – launched a UPMS to fetch bills from the billers & present to customers
- UPMS – **U**nified **P**resentment **M**anagement **S**ystem
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008



12. In January 2022, South Indian Bank (SIB) won the “UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021” for best automation under crisis for business continuity. In the 2021 Edition of the UiPath Automation Excellence Awards, the individuals and organizations across India and South Asia (Sri Lanka, Bangladesh & Nepal), who have solved some of the greatest challenges through transformative automation projects were recognised. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Indian Bank – won the “UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021”
- HQs of South Indian Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – Murali Ramakrishnan

13. In January 2022, The Reserve Bank of India cancelled the Certificate of Authorisation (CoA) of Payment System Operators (PSOs) Muthoot Vehicle & Asset Finance Limited and Eko India Financial Services Ltd on account of non-compliance with the regulatory requirements. Due to the cancellation of their CoAs, these companies cannot transact the business of issuance and operation of Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the CoA of “Muthoot Vehicle & Asset Finance Ltd” and “Eko India Financial Services Ltd”
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

14. In January 2022, SBI General Insurance launched a campaign to increase awareness of Indians around the need to buy health insurance to save tax. The campaign #BahaneChhodoTaxBachao will also underline other benefits of opting for health insurance. Health insurance can also help save tax under ‘Section 80 D’ of Income Tax laws of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI General Insurance – launched a campaign “#BahaneChhodoTaxBachao”
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal | Tagline – “Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono”

15. In January 2022, Reliance Jio launched “UPI Autopay” feature for its prepaid and postpaid customers in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Jio has become the first telecom company to launch this feature on its MyJio App. The ‘UPI Autopay’ feature will allow Jio customers to set standing instructions using the MyJio app for auto-recharge, making the recharging and bill payment process hassle-free. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Jio + NPCI = launched “UPI Autopay” feature
- HQs of Reliance Jio – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Pravir Kumar
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

16. In January 2022, Airtel Payments Bank collaborated with Park+ to offer FASTag-based smart parking solutions. The service is already operational at a South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) parking site, and will soon be made available at Aurangabad Airport and 32nd Avenue (32nd Milestone) in Gurugram. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airtel Payments Bank + Park+ = collaborated to offer FASTag-based smart parking solutions
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017
- Airtel Payments Bank – first to receive a payments bank license from the RBI



17. In January 2022, The Reserve Bank of India increased the threshold limit for all commercial banks (other than regional rural banks, local area banks and payments banks) to maintain Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) on deposits and other extension of funds received from non-financial small business customers from ₹5 Cr to ₹7.5 Cr. LCR promotes short-term resilience of banks to potential liquidity disruptions by ensuring that they have sufficient high quality liquid assets (HQLAs) to survive an acute stress scenario lasting for 30 days. This will enable banks to manage liquidity risk more effectively and banks will be able to lend instead of parking in HQLAs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – increased the threshold limit for banks to maintain LCR on deposits from ₹5 Cr to ₹7.5 Cr
- This will make sure that banks have sufficient HQLAs to survive an acute stress scenario lasting for 30 days
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

Important Days & Dates

18. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) celebrated 64th DRDO Day on January 01, 2022. The DRDO was formed in 1958 from the amalgamation of the then already functioning Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the Defence Science Organisation (DSO). DRDO was then a small organisation with 10 establishments or laboratories. Currently, the DRDO has total 49 establishments or laboratories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 01 – 64th DRDO Day
- Currently, the DRDO has total 49 establishments or laboratories *{Dynamic Data}*
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

19. In January 2022, 4th edition of World Braille Day was observed on 4 January to mark the 231st birth anniversary of Louis Braille. The day has been marked by the United Nations since 2019. The day highlights the importance of Braille as a means of communication for partially sighted and blind people. Braille is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using 6 dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 04 – 4th World Braille Day – by UN (since 2019)
- The day marks the 231st birth anniversary of – Louis Braille

20. ‘War Orphans Day’ or ‘World Day of War Orphans’ is observed annually on January 6 to educate and address people about the need to care for children living in traumatic conditions in war-torn areas around the world. The day was initiated by the French organisation ‘OS Enfants en Detresses’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 6 – ‘War Orphans Day’ or ‘World Day of War Orphans’



21. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) celebrated its 75th Foundation Day on January 6, 2022. BIS came into existence as Indian Standards Institution (ISI) on the 6th January 1947 and in June 1947 Dr. Lal C. Verman took over as its first Director. Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) came into existence, through an Act of Parliament dated 26th November 1986, on 1st April 1987. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 6 – 75th Foundation Day of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari

Obituaries

22. In January 2022, Viktor Saneyev, three-time Olympic triple jump champion, died at the age of 76. He was born in Georgia. He won Olympic Golds in Mexico City in 1968, in Munich in 1972 & in Montreal in 1976. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Viktor Saneyev ([Triple jump](#)) – three-time Olympic champion – Passed away

23. On January 3, 2022, The Indian Navy's 1971 Indo-Pak war veteran Vice Admiral S.H. Sarma died at the age of 100. He was the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet during the 1971 war which led to the creation of Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vice Admiral S. H. Sarma – Indian Navy's 1971 Indo-Pak war veteran – Passed away
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

24. In January 2022, Social activist Sindhutai Sapkal, popularly known as 'Mother of Orphans' passed away in Pune. She received the Padma Shri in 2021. She was also awarded by 'Mother Teresa Award' in 2013 & 'Nari Shakti Puruskar' in 2017. In 2010, a Marathi biopic on her, "Mee Sindhutai Sapkal" was released which was selected for world premiere at the 54th London Film Festival. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sindhutai Sapkal – Social activist – passed away (known as 'Mother of Orphans')
- Awards: Padma Shri in 2021 | Mother Teresa Award in 2013 | Nari Shakti Puruskar in 2017
- Marathi biopic on her – "Mee Sindhutai Sapkal" (released in 2010)

25. In January 2022, Shillong Chamber Choir's founder and renowned pianist Neil Nongkynrih, aka Uncle Neil, died. He was 51. Neil's choir won India's Got Talent in 2010. He was honoured with the Padma Shri in 2015 in Arts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neil Nongkynrih ([Pianist](#)) – Shillong Chamber Choir's founder – passed away
- Neil Nongkynrih – won India's Got Talent in 2010 & honoured with the Padma Shri (Arts) in 2015

Appointments & Resignations

26. In January 2022, Alka Mittal was appointed as interim chairman and managing director of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). She became the 1st woman to head the India's largest oil and gas producer. She replaced Subhash Kumar. Nishi Vasudeva was the first woman to head an oil company, when in 2014 she took over as CMD of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alka Mittal – 1st woman to be appointed as CMD of ONGC
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

27. In January 2022, the Reserve Bank of India appointed Deepak Kumar & Ajay Kumar Choudhary as new Executive Directors. Deepak Kumar will look after Foreign Exchange Department, Department of Communication and Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the RBI. Meanwhile, Ajay Kumar Choudhary will look after fintech department, risk monitoring department and inspection department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deepak Kumar & Ajay Kumar Choudhary – appointed as new Executive Directors of RBI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

28. In January 2022, Bank of Baroda signed cricketer Shafali Verma as its brand endorser. She was the youngest woman cricketer to play for India in her debut game against South Africa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shafali Verma – appointed as brand endorser of Bank of Baroda
- Shafali Verma – youngest woman cricketer to play for India (against South Africa)
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India's International Bank”

29. In January 2022, the Centre again appointed Vijay Paul Sharma as the chairman of Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) after he relinquished the post in May 2021 following completion of the 5-year tenure. He played a critical role in acceding to the government's decision of fixing the MSP at 50% over the cost of production. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijay Paul Sharma – re-appointed as the chairman of Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP)
- HQs of CACP – New Delhi | Chairman – Vijay Paul Sharma

30. In January 2022, China's senior diplomat Zhang Ming took charge as the new Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) from Vladimir Norov, former Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan from January 1 for a three-year term. The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India & Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017. The official languages of the SCO are Chinese and Russian. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Zhang Ming (China) – appointed as the new Secretary-General of the SCO (succeeding - Vladimir Norov)
- India & Pakistan – became permanent members of SCO in 2017
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | 2021 Presidency – Uzbekistan



31. In January 2022, 'Legends League Cricket' roped in Jhulan Goswami as an ambassador to promote Women's Empowerment initiatives. She was the face of the League to promote women's participation in cricket. Amitabh Bachchan also joined Legends League Cricket as its Ambassador. Legends League Cricket also announced an All Women Match Official Team for the League. This is for the first time in cricket that an all-women Match Officials team would be officiating an entire men's league. Shandre Frtiz from South Africa was the 'Match Referee' for the entire League. The League also had former India Head Coach, Ravi Shastri as its 'Commissioner'. The first season of 'Howzat Legends League Cricket' was scheduled to be held at Oman Cricket Stadium, Muscat between the India Maharajas, Asia Lions, and World Giants from January 20-29, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jhulan Goswami – roped in as ambassador of 'Howzat Legends League Cricket' to promote Women's Empowerment
- Amitabh Bachchan – also joined Legends League Cricket as its Ambassador
- Shandre Frtiz (South Africa)– was the Match Referee for the entire League
- Ravi Shastri – Commissioner of the League
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Geoff Allardice | Members – 106 countries

Persons In News

32. In January 2022, Captain Harpreet Chandi, a 32-year-old Indian-origin British Sikh Army officer and physiotherapist, also known as Polar Preet, became the 1st woman of colour to complete a solo unsupported trek to the South Pole. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Captain Harpreet Chandi (British Sikh Army officer) – 1st woman of colour to complete a solo unsupported trek to the South Pole

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

33. On January 3, 2022, Apple Inc. became the first company with a \$3 trillion stock market value when the Silicon Valley company's shares hit an intraday record high. Apple shared the \$2 trillion market value club with Microsoft Corp, which is now worth about \$2.5 trillion. Alphabet, Amazon.com Inc. and Tesla have market values above \$1 trillion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apple Inc. – became the first company with a \$3 trillion stock market value
- HQs of Apple – California, US | CEO – Tim Cook

34. In January 2022, Telangana was at the top in India in the list of highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme till December 31, 2021. As many as 13,737 out of 14,200 villages in the State are in the ODF Plus list, which is 96.74%. This was followed by Tamil Nadu with 4,432 villages (35.39%) and Karnataka with 1,511 villages (5.59%). The State government enacted a new Telangana Panchayat Raj Act to ensure holistic development of villages. Sanitation drives have often been carried out through the "Palle Pragathi programme" in villages. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Telangana – topped the list of highest ODF Plus villages under ‘Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II’ programme
- Telangana followed by – Tamil Nadu (2nd) & Karnataka (3rd)
- Sanitation drives in Telangana – carried out through the “Palle Pragathi programme” in villages
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

Books & Authors

35. In January 2022, Dharendra K. Jha authored a new book titled “Gandhi’s Assassin: The Making of Nathuram Godse and his Idea of India” which explores Godse’s connection with RSS. The book is published by Vintage/Penguin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Book “Gandhi’s Assassin: The Making of Nathuram Godse and his Idea of India” – authored by Dharendra K. Jha
- Publisher – Vintage/Penguin

36. In January 2022, on the occasion of Mamata Banerjee’s birthday HarperCollins announced the release of book “Mamata: Beyond 2021” which is written by Jayanta Ghosal. He has authored several books in Bengali about the region and is also a biographer of Mamata Banerjee. The book is translated by Arunava Sinha who translates classic, modern and contemporary Bengali fiction and non-fiction from Bangladesh and India into English. The book details how Mamata was successfully able to portray herself as the ‘Daughter of Bengal’ who worked tirelessly for the state’s poor and disadvantaged. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mamata: Beyond 2021” book – authored by Jayanta Ghosal
- Publisher – HarperCollins | Translated into English by – Arunava Sinha

Sports & Games

37. In January 2022, Sri Lanka batter Bhanuka Rajapaksa announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect. He represented Sri Lanka in five ODIs and 18 T20Is, scoring a total of runs 409 across formats which included three fifties. In T20 World Cup 2021, he finished as the third-highest run-scorer for his team with 155 runs from eight matches. He made his debut in July 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhanuka Rajapaksa (Sri Lanka) – retired from International Cricket
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

38. In January 2022, The Akshaya Patra Foundation (TAPF) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India entered into a partnership to enhance the effectiveness of the 'Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman' (formerly mid-day meal scheme). Since its inception in 1961, school meals have been part of WFP's mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshaya Patra Foundation + WFP = to enhance the effectiveness of the "Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman"
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36
- HQs of Akshaya Patra Foundation – Bengaluru | CEO – Shridhar Venkat

39. In January 2022, The Jammu & Kashmir signed an MoU with Dubai-based Lulu group to set up a food processing and logistics hub in Srinagar. Jammu & Kashmir is number one in the production of Saffron, Apple, Walnut & Almond in India. The MoU with the LuLu group will help the UT reach out to shoppers at 190 LuLu Hypermarkets across the GCC and Egypt. The world-famous GI-tagged saffron has been launched at LuLu Hypermarket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K + Lulu group = MoU to set up a food processing & logistics hub in Srinagar
- J & K – top state/UT in the production of Saffron, Apple, Walnut & Almond in India
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

40. In January 2022, Syntizen, a Digital Identity Solutions provider, partnered with the Odisha government to provide a Video KYC solution to offer life certificates to pensioners. Odisha became the 1st State in the country to deploy a digital process which includes Aadhaar Validation for smoothening the process of obtaining a life certificate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Syntizen + Odisha = partnered to provide a Video KYC solution to offer life certificates to pensioners
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

41. In January 2022, Himachal Pradesh chief minister launched the UNNATI portal. Apart from real time collaboration, UNNATI portal would allow users to share and work on documents together from any place and any time. He also launched the mobile App & website of the HP State Industrial Development Corporation (HPSIDC). An MoU was also signed between HPSIDC and Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) regarding supply of steel requirements of the Corporation within the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – launched "UNNATI" portal/mobile App & website of the HPSIDC
- HPSIDC + SAIL = an MoU regarding supply of steel requirements of the Corporation
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Soma Mondal | Founded in – 1954
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

42. In January 2022, NHPC signed a Promoters Agreement with the Green Energy Development Corporation of Odisha (GEDCOL) for the development of 500 megawatts (MW) floating solar projects on different water bodies in Odisha. NHPC and GEDCOL agree to establish a joint venture (JV) company. The equity shareholding of NHPC and GEDCOL in the proposed JV shall be in the proportion of 74:26. The project will be implemented under Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Park (UMREPP), Mode 8 of Solar Park Scheme. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NHPC + GEDCOL = to establish a joint venture (JV) company with equity shareholding of 74:26 respectively
- NHPC + GEDCOL = signed promoters agreement for the development of 500 MW floating solar projects in Odisha
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

43. In January 2022, Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha (IPICOL) and GAIL (India) Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the areas of green hydrogen, green ammonia and renewable energy (solar/wind) for the production of eco-friendly fuels in Odisha. Green Hydrogen helps the industries cut aggregate emissions of Green House Gases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GAIL + IPICOL = an MoU for cooperation in the areas of RE for the production of Eco-friendly fuels in Odisha
- HQs of GAIL – New Delhi | CMD – Manoj Jain
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

44. In January 2022, Karnataka state government signed an MoU with Singapore-based ‘LNG Alliance Company’ for setting up the State’s first LNG Terminal in Mangaluru. The terminal will be set up in association with New Mangalore Port Trust (NMPT) with an investment of ₹2,250 Cr. The project will come up as part of the Union Government’s plan to boost the alternative fuel market to achieve net zero carbon by 2070. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka + LNG Alliance Company (Singapore) – an MoU for setting up the State’s first LNG Terminal in Mangaluru
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

45. In January 2022, Sri Lanka signed an agreement with India to jointly redevelop the strategic World War II-era oil tank farm in the Sri Lanka’s eastern port district of Trincomalee. This agreement is commonly known as the Trinco Oil Tank Farm. 85 of the 99 tanks now will be under the Sri Lankan control which had previously remained under Indian control. The Cabinet has approved the proposal to allocate 24 and 14 oil tanks of Trincomalee Oil Tank Complex to Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) and the local operators of the Indian Oil Company (LIOC) respectively while remaining 61 oil tanks are to be developed under Trinco Petroleum Terminal Pvt. Ltd, with shares of CPC (51%) & LIOC (49%). The joint venture will be for a lease period of 50 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka + India = agreement to redevelop the “Strategic World War II-era Oil Tank Farm” in Trincomalee
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Acquisitions & Mergers

46. In January 2022, Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) purchased 25.8% stake in Dunzo on a fully diluted basis with an investment of \$200 million. Dunzo raised \$240 million by funding led by RRVL, with participation from existing



investors Lightbox, Lightrock, 3L Capital and Alteria Capital. The capital will be used to further Dunzo's vision to be the largest quick commerce business in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Retail Ventures Limited – purchased 25.8% stake in Dunzo for \$200 million
- HQs of RRVL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – V. Subramaniam
- HQs of Dunzo – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Kabeer Biswas

47. In January 2022, NTPC decided to acquire 5% equity stake in Power Exchange of India Ltd (PXIL) which is India's first institutionally promoted power exchange. This is to increase government's share of the spot power market in total electricity supply in India to 25% by 2023-24. The PXIL was incorporated on February 20, 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC – will acquire 5% stake in PXIL
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975
- HQs of PXIL – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Prabhajit Kumar Sarkar

Awards, Reward Recognitions & Prizes

48. In January 2022, The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) won SKOCH Award in Silver category for its work towards combating Crime and Violence against Children. It was given on the 78th SKOCH Summit organised with theme of "State of Governance". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Forensic Science Laboratory – won SKOCH Award in Silver category on the 78th SKOCH Summit
- Theme of the 78th SKOCH Summit – "State of Governance"
- HQs of Skoch group – Gurgaon, Haryana | Chairman – Sameer Kochhar

Defence Affairs

49. In January 2022, Six Indo-Pacific nations (India, Australia, Canada, Japan, US and South Korea) participated in the "Sea Dragon 22" multi-lateral anti-submarine warfare exercise in the Pacific Ocean. India, Japan, Australia and America are also part of the Quad, and also participate in the Malabar exercise. The exercise took place at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, which is a territory of USA. Each event will be graded and the nation scoring the highest total points will receive the coveted 'Dragon Belt award'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Australia + Canada + Japan + USA + South Korea = began anti-submarine exercise "Sea Dragon 22"
- Location of the exercise – Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, a territory of USA
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



50. In January 2022, The Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA), the defence treaty between Australia & Japan was signed. Japan and Australia are two treaty allies of the US and this treaty shows the changing security architecture in the Asia & Indo-Pacific region. The treaty points towards a more empowered and committed regional strategic network. Thus far, Japan's only major defence ally had been the US and this treaty shows that Japan is willing to play a more proactive role in the region. Reports suggest it will seek RAA-like agreements with the UK and France as well. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia & Japan – signed a defence treaty “Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA)”
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida





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